

THE LINNÆAN SUBGENERIC NAMES OF PHALÆNA (LEPIDOPTERA, HETEROCERA)

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In 1758 in the tenth edition of the "Systema Naturæ" Linnæus established seven subdivisions of the genus *Phalæna*, which he named *Bombyx*, *Noctua*, *Geometra*, *Pyralis*, *Tortrix*, *Tinea* and *Alucita*. On page 496 is a key to the divisions, which would seem to establish the names of the divisions as available and of subgeneric value. However, in 1936 the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature promulgated Opinion 124, the summary of which states: "The various Subdivisions of genera published by Linnæus in 1758 are not to be accepted as of this date (1758) as of subgeneric value under the International Rules." Basically, Opinion 124 is inadequate, for although it settled certain troublesome problems, it created uncertainty and confusion in other groups in which the names of the Linnæan subdivisions had been long accepted and well established. Apparently the Commission recognized this possibility, for it stated a willingness to take up individual cases in those groups in which the Opinion produced greater confusion than uniformity. There appears to be no logical way of "stretching" Opinion 124 to cover the works of Linnæus subsequent to 1758, and even if that were done there would still remain the problem of determining the status of the Linnæan names used by other authors. Inasmuch as the Commission made no reference to the status of the Linnæan "subgeneric" names in any work later than 1758, although it must have been aware of at least some of them, it appears necessary to consider in detail the use of the various names subsequent to 1758, both by Linnæus and by the authors that immediately followed him. Discussions, in chronological sequence, of the various works, which have a bearing on this problem are as follows:

1760—Langius, J. J.: "Caroli Linnæi Systema Naturæ. . . . Editionem Decimam. . . ." I do not consider this a separate

work, merely another printing of the original Tenth Edition, and not entitled to separate recognition nomenclatorially.

1761—Linnæus, C.: "Fauna Suecica", Second Edition. In this work the seven subdivisions of *Phalæna* are used in the same sense as in 1758. If the names were accepted from this work, five of the seven would fall readily into their customary and recognized usages, while two, *Bombyx* and *Pyralis*, would be used in unfamiliar associations. If we are to maintain the traditional usage of *Bombyx* as the generic name of the silk moth, it will be necessary to petition the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature for a suspension of the Rules. Without doubt all workers in Entomology would agree to this action, as there is perhaps no other name which has had the amount of literature built up around it as *Bombyx mori*. This action will be necessary, regardless of the author or the work from which the name is dated, because Blanchard designated *Phalæna Bombyx quercus* Linnæus as the type of the genus in 1845 (*Histoire des Insectes*, vol. 2, p. 373). This same species is the type of *Lasiocampa* Schrank 1802, the type of the Family Lasiocampidæ. There is an earlier selection of *Phalæna Bombyx pavonia* Linnæus as the type by Latreille in 1810 (*Considérations Générales sur l'Order Naturel des Crustacés, des Arachnides et des Insectes*, p. 441). This I do not regard as valid, as I think it is excluded from consideration by the wording of the summary of Opinion 136 of the International Commission. Some workers accept the instances in which the word "ejusdem" was used by Latreille as falling within the meaning of "one only of the species included in the genus by the original author thereof." This particular point was one of the three questions submitted to the Commission on the 1810 Latreille type designations, but no answer was given. If *Pyralis* is accepted from this date, the type designation of Curtis in December 1834 (*British Entomology*, vol. 11, p. 527) will be valid, as the species selected, *barbalis*, is included. This species was not included in *Pyralis* in 1758; it was not described until the following year by Clerck. Earlier Curtis had said, "... , it will be better to take the first species of Linnæus as the type, ..." (*British Entomology*, vol. 6, p. 288, 1829). Near the end of February 1834 Stephens (*Illustrations of British Ento-*

mology, *Haustellata*, vol. 4, p. 25) quoted Curtis' statement of 1829 and pointed out that the first species placed in *Pyralis* in 1758 was *farinalis* and that the first species placed in *Pyralis* in 1761 was *tentacularis*. Stephens thus gives us an idea of the ambiguity of Curtis' initial attempt to fix the type of *Pyralis*. Unfortunately Stephens did not at that time (February 1834) clearly designate a type for *Pyralis*, though criticizing Curtis for not doing so, and when he finally designated *farinalis* as the type of *Pyralis* in January 1835 (*Illustrations of British Entomology, Haustellata*, vol. 4, p. 395), his action was antedated by Curtis' citation of *barbalis* as type.

1761—Poda von Neuhaus, N.: "Insecta Musei Graecensis, . . ." I can find no evidence as to which work appeared first in 1761, this or the Second Edition of the *Fauna Suecica*. However, if the names are used from this work, only three could be used in their traditional usages and four, *Bombyx*, *Geometra*, *Tortrix*, and *Alucita*, would be used in unfamiliar associations.

1762—Linnæus, C.: "Systema Naturæ", Eleventh Edition. This is a reprint of the Tenth Edition, and is said to abound in errors, but to have been recognized by Linnæus as another edition of his work. I have not seen it, but I assume that it will not differ from the Tenth Edition. Thus if the names were used from this date, they would have the same application as if used from 1758.

1763—Scopoli, J. A.: "Entomologia Carniolica . . ." The subgeneric names are used in the plural at the head of sections of the genus *Phalæna*. If plural names were to be accepted, the names would be available from this work.

1764—Linnæus, C.: "Museum Ludovicæ Ulricæ". In this work four of the names proposed in 1758 are used, namely *Bombyx*, *Noctua*, *Geometra*, and *Pyralis*. If these names were to be used as dating from this work, they would come to be applied in senses wholly foreign from any in which they have been used.

1767—Linnæus, C.: "Systema Naturæ, Editio Duodecima Reformata". The Twelfth Edition of the *Systema Naturæ* is similar in construction to the Tenth Edition. All the names proposed as subdivisions of *Phalæna* in 1758 recur in the same sense in this work with the addition of one more, *Attacus*. As in 1758, a key

to the divisions of *Phalæna* is given (page 809). If the names were used from this work they would have the same application as 1758.

1770, 1773 and 1782—Drury, D.: "Illustrations of Natural History," vols. 1, 2 and 3. The subdivisions are used in an abbreviated form in this work, and are thus unrecognizable without reference to previous usage. If the names should be used from this work, none could be applied in the accepted sense, as this work deals with non-European species.

1775—Fabricius, J. C.: "Systema Entomologiæ." From all the available evidence it appears that this work of Fabricius appeared earlier in the year 1775 than the "Ankündigung eines systematischen Werkes von den Schmetterlingen der Wiener Gegend". In his autobiography Fabricius says that his "Systema Entomologiæ" appeared at Easter time in 1775¹. The Denis and Schiffermüller work was not reviewed until December 8, 1775², in the *Jenaische Zeitungen von Gelehrten Sachen*. The "Systema Entomologiæ" is the first work in which the names appear in a strictly generic sense. If the names are accepted from this work, considerable confusion will arise. Fabricius used *Pyralis* for the species which Linnæus placed in *Tortrix*, placing the species which Linnæus had under *Pyralis* along with those he had under *Geometra* in *Phalæna*, and suppressing the Linnæan names *Geometra* and *Tortrix*. In addition he employed *Alucita* of Linnæus for part of *Tinea* of Linnæus and for *Alucita* of Linnæus he used *Pterophora* of Geoffroy. If *Noctua* in the insects is dated from this work, it will fall as a homonym of *Noctua* Gmelin (1771) in the birds.

1775—Denis and Schiffermüller: "Ankündigung eines systematischen Werkes von den Schmetterlingen der Wiener Gegend." Like Fabricius' work the names are used in a strictly generic sense. If the names were accepted from this work, the same situation would be met with as would obtain in accepting the names from the *Fauna Suecica*.

¹ Julius Schuster, Linné und Fabricius zu Ihrem Leben und Werk, p. 102, 1928. (Faesimile.)

F. W. Hope, Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. 4: Appendix, 1845-47. (Translation of Fabricius' autobiography.)

² L. B. Prout, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (ser. 7) 6: 159, 1900.

Following is a discussion of each of the names with the citations of all pertinent genotype designations.

ATTACUS

Phalæna Attacus Linnæus, *Systema Naturæ*, ed. 12, vol. 1, pt. 2, p. 808, 1767. 17 included species.

Type designations:

Phalæna Bombyx atlas Linnæus, 1758 = *Attacus atlas* (Linnæus)

Designated by [Duponchel], in d'Orbigny, *Dictionnaire Universel d'Histoire Naturelle*, vol. 2, p. 320, 1842.

Phalæna Bombyx pavonia major = *Bombyx pyri* Schiffermüller = *Attacus pyri* (Schiffermüller)

Designated by Blanchard, *Histoire des Insectes*, vol. 2, p. 372, 1845.

Cramer in 1779 (*Papillons Exotique*, vol. 1, p. 12) uses *Attacus* in the same manner as Linnæus for the single species, *atlas*. The first use of *Attacus* in a strictly generic sense is by Germar 1810 (*Systematis Glossatorum Prodromus*, sect. 1, p. 9). I have not been able to consult this work, and I am unable to determine the included species. This name does not fall within the wording of Opinion 124.

BOMBYX

Phalæna Bombyx Linnæus, *Systema Naturæ*, ed. 10, p. 495, 1758. 58 included species.

Type designations:

Phalæna Bombyx pavonia Linnæus, 1758 (as: *Bombyx pavonia* Fab.; ejusd. *B. quercus*, *mori* etc.) = *Bombyx pavonia* Linnæus.

Designated by Latreille, *Considérations Générales sur l'Ordre Natural des Crustacés, des Arachnides et des Insectes*, p. 441, 1810. (See the discussion of this under "1761—Linnæus, C.: 'Fauna Suecica'")

Phalæna Bombyx quercus Linnæus, 1758 = *Bombyx quercus* Linnæus.

Designated by Blanchard, *Histoire des Insectes*, vol. 2, p. 373, 1845.

Phalæna Bombyx mori Linnæus, 1758 = *Bombyx mori* Linnæus.

Designated by [Blanchard], in Cuvier, *Le Règne Animal*, Disciples Edition, Insectes, pl. 151, 1846.

Should the Latreille type designation be considered valid, then *Bombyx* would fall in the Saturniidae and would be isogenotypic with *Heræa* Hübner, 1806 and 1822, with type *Bombyx carpini* Schiffermüller = *Phalæna Bombyx pavonia* Linnæus = *Heræa pavonia* (Linnæus) and with *Eudia* Jordan, 1913, with type *Bombyx pavonia* Linnæus = *Eudia pavonia* (Linnæus). If the 1845 type designation of Blanchard is accepted as final, *Bombyx* will replace *Lasiocampa* Schrank, 1802, the names being isogenotypic. The traditional type of *Bombyx* is *mori*³, but this species was not designated as type until 1846.

The first use of the name subsequent to 1758 is by Linnæus 1761 (*Fauna Suecica*, ed. 2, p. 291) for 48 species including *pavonia* and *quercus*, but not *mori*. The first use in a strictly generic sense is by Fabricius 1775 (*Systema Entomologiæ*, p. 556) for 13 species including *pavonia*, *quercus*, and *mori*.

NOCTUA

Phalæna Noctua Linnæus, *Systema Naturæ*, ed. 10, p. 508, 1758. 68 included species.

Type designations:

Phalæna Noctua typica Linnæus, 1758 = *Noctua typica* Linnæus.

Ipsa facto. (See Article 30b of the Règles.)

Phalæna Noctua pronuba Linnæus, 1758 = *Noctua pronuba* Linnæus.

By tautonomy. In the second edition of the *Fauna Suecica* under species "1167 PH. NOCTUA *pronuba*" Linnæus cites a reference to Goedart followed by "Noctua". This seems to fall within the bounds of the provisions for type by tautonomy.

Phalæna Noctua pronuba Linnæus, 1758 = *Noctua pronuba* Linnæus.

Designated by Latreille, *Considérations Générales sur l'Ordre Naturel des Crustacés, des Arachnides et des Insectes*, p. 441, 1810.

³ *Sericaria* Latreille, in Cuvier, *Le Règne Animal*, ed. 2, vol. 5, p. 404, 1829, often used with *mori* as type, is incorrect as *mori* was not one of the originally included species.

Phalæna Noctua exclamationis Linnæus, 1758 = *Noctua exclamationis* Linnæus.

Designated by Duponchel, in Godart, Histoire Naturelle des Lépidoptères de France, vol. 7, pt. 2, p. 71, 1829.

The first use of the name subsequent to 1758 is by Linnæus in 1761 in the Second Edition of the Fauna Suecica, page 305; 85 species are listed including *typica*, *pronuba*, and *exclamationis*. The first use in a strictly generic sense in the insects is by Fabricius in 1775 in the Systema Entomologiæ, page 590; 122 species are listed including *typica*, *pronuba*, and *exclamationis*. This name has also been used in the birds, and I have considered all the references carefully, and I find the first valid usage in that group to be Gmelin's in the Novi Commentarii Academiae Scientiarum Imperialis Petropolitana 15: 447, 1771, for *Noctua minor* = *Stryx accipitrina* Pallas. 1771.⁴

In 1923 Barnes and Benjamin (Contributions to the Natural History of the Lepidoptera of North America, vol. 5, pt. 2, p. 55) stated that the long established and familiar family name Noctuidæ should be replaced by Phalænidæ. Their reasons were that *Phalæna* Linnæus, 1758, and *Noctua* Linnæus, 1758, were isogenotypic, having *Phalæna Noctua typica* Linnæus, 1758, as type (see Article 30b of the Règles), and that *Noctua* was in effect the typical subgenus of *Phalæna* (see Articles 9 and 29 of the Règles). The promulgation of Opinion 124 in 1936 (Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections 73 (8): 1-2) has put their reasoning in an entirely different light, because both names no longer have the same type, and one is free to select the type of *Noctua*.

If we accept *Noctua* Linnæus as of 1761, *typica* Linnæus, 1758, cannot be construed as the type because it is not a new species in this work (see Article 30b of the Règles). The type will be *pronuba* Linnæus 1758 by tautonomy and also as subsequently designated by Latreille in 1810. Duponchel's subsequent type

⁴ Tams, Insects of Samoa, Part 3, Lepidoptera, Fasc. 4, p. 171, 1935, refers to *Noctua* Linnæus 1766. In this usage (Amœnitates Academicæ, vol. 7, p. 450) the name is a *nomen nudum*; it is a combination (*Noctua daurica*) of an undescribed species and an undescribed genus. The first date of this use is 1764 (Dissertatio Academica Demonstrans Necessitatem Promovendæ Historiæ Naturalis in Rossia, p. 16), and it should be credited to Karamyschew, not Linnæus. It has no nomenclatorial validity.

designation of *exclamationis* Linnæus 1758 will be invalid. *Noctua* Linnæus 1761 would then take precedence over *Triphæna* Oechsenheimer with the same species, *pronuba*, designated as type by Curtis in 1831 (British Entomology, vol. 8, p. 348).

The generic name *Noctua*⁵ has had slightly varying applications within the subfamily Agrotinæ (recte Noctuinaë) of the family of which it is the type. In America the name has been applied to the group of moths typified by the species related to *c-nigrum*; this was the usage of John B. Smith and was based upon the Guenée (1852) and Meigen (1829) use of the name. The correct name for this group is *Amathes* Hübner [1821] with type *Noctua baja* Schiffermüller. Hampson, on the basis of the "first species rule," used the name *Noctua* with type *strix* Linnæus, 1758, in place of *Thysania* Dalman, 1825, and substituted the subfamily name Noctuinaë for Erebinæ.

The recognition of the technically correct position of *Phalæna* and *Noctua* and the change of the family name Noctuidæ to Phalænidæ has led to confusion and to the interjection of the name Agrotidæ⁶ as a substitute for Phalænidæ. The inherent confusion lies in the application that the names *Phalæna* and Phalænidæ had prior to the change made by Barnes and Benjamin in 1923. *Phalæna* was restricted by Fabricius in 1775 to include the species placed by Linnæus in *Phalæna Geometra* and *Phalæna Pyralis*. Latreille, accepting this restriction, made his family Phalænites in Sonnini's Buffon, Insectes, in 1802, (vol. 3, p. 411) and in 1810 (Considérations Générales sur l'Ordre

⁵ For a comprehensive discussion of *Noctua* see Grote, Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc. 41: 4-12, 1902. For a bibliography see Barnes and Benjamin, Contributions to the Natural History of the Lepidoptera of North America, vol. 5, pt. 2, pp. 56-57, 1923.

⁶ The family name Agrotidæ was proposed by Grote in 1895 (Abhandl. naturwiss. Vereins zu Bremen 14: 43) to replace the family name Noctuidæ. Grote considered it arbitrary to begin zoological nomenclature with the tenth edition of the "Systema Naturæ", and thus, to his way of thinking, *Noctua* Linnæus, 1758, was preoccupied by *Noctua* Klein 1753 (see, Can. Ent. 28: 65-66, 1896). Actually the first use of Agrotidæ was by Heinemann in 1859 (Schmetterlinge Deutschlands und der Schweiz, vol. 1, p. 488) and was based upon, and equal in concept to, Agrotides of Rambur, proposed in 1848 (Ann. Soc. Ent. France, 2nd series, 6: 67). Agrotidæ in the sense of Rambur and Heinemann is equal to the modern subfamily Agrotinæ (Phalæninæ) recte Noctuinaë.

Naturel des Crustacés, des Arachnides et des Insectes, p. 441) he designated *Phalæna Geometra sambucaria* Linnæus, 1758, as the type of *Phalæna*. Leach in 1815 (Brewster's Edinburgh Encyclopædia, vol. 9, pt. 1, p. 134) proposed the tribe Phalænides in which he included five families—Phalænida, Geometrida, Herminida, Platyptercida and Tortricida. The first two families equal the present family Geometridæ. Samouelle in 1819 (Entomologist's Useful Compendium, p. 252) combines the two names of Leach for the "Geometrids" and uses Phalænidæ. Curtis in his "British Entomology" published between 1823 and 1840 divides the species between Geometridæ and Phalænidæ without any apparent reasons. Duponchel in 1829 and Guenée in 1857 used Phalænitæ for the "Geometrids." Packard published his "Monograph of the Geometrid Moths or Phalænidæ of North America" in 1876. The name has been used by other workers, but almost always referring to the "Geometrids," never to the Noctuids. A small group of workers, who apply the "first species rule" rigidly, have asserted that the family name Phalænidæ is the correct name for the family called Saturniidæ (Testout, Bulletin Mensuel de la Société Linnéenne de Lyon, p. 153, 1941).

If we accept the reinstatement of *Noctua* Linnæus, 1761, as a name acceptable under the strict interpretation of the provisions of the Règles and the Opinions of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, Noctuidæ could be used in place of the very ambiguous, though older, family name Phalænidæ. In view of the great amount of literature that has been built up for Phalænidæ in the sense of the Geometrid moths and because the use of the name for the Noctuid moths has had very little acceptance generally, I do not think it will contribute anything to stability to continue to advocate the use of Phalænidæ in place of Noctuidæ. As a family name Noctuidæ, proposed as Noctuelites by Latreille in 1809 (Genera Crustaceorum et Insectorum vol. 4, p. 224), has had universal usage for one concept, and it is still generally used by most workers other than those in England and in North America.

GEOMETRA

Phalæna Geometra Linnæus, Systema Naturæ, ed. 10, p. 519, 1758. 75 included species.

Type designation:

Phalæna Geometra papilionaria Linnæus, 1758 = *Geometra papilionaria* Linnæus.

Designated by Duponchel, in Godart, *Histoire Naturelle des Lépidoptères de France*, vol. 7, pt. 2, p. 106, 1829.

The first use subsequent to 1758 is by Linnæus in 1761 in the second edition of the *Fauna Suecica*, page 322 for 81 species including *papilionaria*. The first use in a strictly generic sense is by Schiffermüller in 1775 in the *Ankündigung eines systematischen Werkes von den Schmetterlingen der Wiener Gegend*, page 95 for 191 species including *papilionaria*.

PYRALIS

Phalæna Pyralis Linnæus, *Systema Naturæ*, ed. 10, p. 533, 1758. 8 included species.

Type designations:

“First species of Linnæus”

Designated by Curtis, *British Entomology*, vol. 6, p. 288, 1829.

Phalæna barbalis Clerck, 1759 = *Pyralis barbalis* (Clerck)

Designated by Curtis, *British Entomology*, vol. 11, p. 527, 1834 (December).

Phalæna Pyralis farinalis Linnæus, 1758 = *Pyralis farinalis* Linnæus.

Designated by Stephens, *Illustrations of British Entomology*, *Haustellata*, vol. 4, p. 395, 1835 (January).

Tortrix fagana Schiffermüller, 1775 = *Pyralis fagana* (Schiffermüller).

Designated by Latreille, *Considérations Générales sur l'Ordre Naturel des Crustacés, des Arachnides et des Insectes*, p. 441, 1810.

The first use of *Pyralis* subsequent to 1758 is by Linnæus in the *Fauna Suecica* (Ed. 2, 349 p. 1761.) for 13 species including *farinalis* and *barbalis*. If the name is accepted from this work, it will fall in the noctuids and replace *Herminia* Latreille, the type of the subfamily *Herminiinæ*. The first use of the name in a strictly generic sense was by Fabricius in 1775, *Systema Entomologiæ* (p. 645) for 57 species. These were the species which

Linnæus placed under *Tortrix*. If the name is accepted from this source, it will replace *Tortrix* or one of the closely related genera. Blanchard (1840 and 1845) was apparently the last worker to use *Pyralis* in the sense of Fabricius, but he also used *Tortrix* in the Linnæan sense.

TORTRIX

Phalæna Tortrix Linnæus, *Systema Naturæ*, ed. 10, p. 530, 1758.
24 included species.

Type designation:

Phalæna Tortrix viridana Linnæus, 1758 = *Tortrix viridana* Linnæus.

Designated by Curtis, *British Entomology*, vol. 16, p. 763, 1839.

The first use subsequent to 1758 is by Linnæus in 1761 in the second edition of the *Fauna Suecica*, page 342, for 40 species including *viridana*. The first use in a strictly generic sense was by Schiffermüller in 1775 in the *Ankündigung eines systematischen Werkes von den Schmetterlingen der Wiener Gegend*, page 125 for 104 species including *viridana*.

TINEA

Phalæna Tinea Linnæus, *Systema Naturæ*, ed. 10, p. 534, 1758.
56 included species.

Type designations:

Phalæna Tinea pellionella Linnæus, 1758 = *Tinea pellionella* Linnæus. Designated by Latreille, *Considérations Générales sur l'Ordre Naturel des Crustacés, des Arachindes et des Insectes*, p. 441, 1810.

The first use subsequent to 1758 is by Linnæus in 1761 in the second edition of the *Fauna Suecica*, page 352 for 95 species including *pellionella*. The first use in a strictly generic sense is by Geoffroy in 1762 in his *Histoire Abrégée des Insectes* (vol. 2, p. 25 and 173). In this work there are no *nomina trivialia*; the species included under this name are represented by a descriptive polynominal phrase. Geoffroy spelled the name *Tinæa*. Fabricius first used the name with included *nomina trivialia* in 1775 in the *Systema Entomologiæ*, pages 655 for 66 species including *pellionella*.

ALUCITA

Phalæna Alucita Linnæus, Systema Naturæ, ed. 10, p. 542, 1758.
6 included species.

Type designations:

Phalæna Alucita hexadactyla Linnæus, 1758 = *Alucita hexadactyla* Linnæus.

Designated by Curtis, British Entomology, vol. 15, p. 695, 1838.

Tinea striatella Schiffermüller, 1775 = *Alucita striatella* (Schiffermüller).

Designated by [Blanchard] in Cuvier, Le Règne Animal, Disciples Edition, Insectes, pl. 157, 1846.

Phalæna Tinea De Geerella Linnæus, 1758 = *Alucita degeerella* (Linnæus).

Designated by Walsingham, Biologia Centrali-Americana, Insecta, Lepidoptera-Heterocera, vol. 4, p. 89, 1911 (as the type of *Alucita* Fabr. nec *Alucita* Linnæus).

The first use subsequent to 1758 was by Linæus in 1761 in the second Edition of the Fauna Suecica, page 370 for 7 species including *hexadactyla*. The first use in a strictly generic sense was by Fabricius in 1775 in the Systema Entomologiæ, page 667 for 20 species. These were part of the species which Linnæus included under *Phalæna Tinea*, thus if the name were used from this work it would come to be applied in a different association than the customary one.

CONCLUSIONS:

In view of the uncertainty about the choice of the work from which to date the names, and to maintain the names in the same sense as that in which all the pertinent literature has been built up, the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature will be requested to suspend the Rules and

1. Validate the following names as of 1758, the Tenth Edition of the Systema Naturæ, and designate as their types the species indicated below:

- a. *Bombyx* Linnæus—type *mori* Linnæus, Family Bombycidae
- b. *Noctua* Linnæus—type *pronuba* Linnæus, Family Noctuidæ

- c. *Geometra* Linnæus—type *papilionaria* Linnæus, Family Geometridæ
 - d. *Tortrix* Linnæus—type *viridana* Linnæus, Family Tortricidæ
 - e. *Pyralis* Linnæus—type *farinalis* Linnæus, Family Pyralididæ
 - f. *Tinea* Linnæus—type *pellionella* Linnæus, Family Tineidæ
 - g. *Alucita* Linnæus—type *hexadactyla* Linnæus, Family Alucitidæ
2. Suppress for all time the generic name *Phalæna* Linnæus 1758, give preference to its typical subgenus *Noctua* Linnæus 1758, and declare Noctuidæ⁷ the correct name for the family with this genus as type;
3. Validate the following name as of 1767, the Twelfth Edition of the *Systema Naturæ*, and designate as type the species indicated,

- a. *Attacus* Linnæus—type *atlas* Linnæus, Family Saturniidæ.

If the above actions are taken, it is believed that stability in the use of these names will result and the growing confusion in the nomenclature of the Lepidoptera Heterocera will be materially reduced.

⁷ This would involve the suppression of the family names Phalænidæ as used in America and of Agrotidæ as used in England.